

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 31, 2007, Claims 10 - 13 are presented for examination, of which Claims 11, 12 and 13 are in independent form. Claims 1- 9 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 10, 12 and 13 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested. The canceled claims will not be further addressed herein.

The Abstract was objected to on the formal grounds noted in the office action. Applicant has carefully reviewed and amended the Abstract so that it complies with the requirements of MPEP § 608.01(b). It is believed that the objection to the Abstract has been obviated and its withdrawal is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Claims 4-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,414,525 (Ito); and Claims 1-3 and 10-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,819,261 (Takahashi et al.).

As shown above, Applicant has amended independent Claims 10, 12 and 13 in terms that more clearly define what he regards as his invention. Applicant submits that these amended independent claims, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 10 is directed to a facsimile apparatus including: (1) a receiver for receiving facsimile data from a telephone line; (2) a decoder for sequentially decoding a portion of image data that corresponds to received facsimile data whenever a fixed amount of facsimile data constituting part of an image is received by the receiver; (3) a generator for sequentially

generating reduced-size image data corresponding to the portion of the image data decoded; (4) a display for sequentially displaying the reduced-size image based upon the reduced-size image generated before all the reduced-size image data is generated; (5) a detector for detecting what command has been entered while sequentially displaying the reduced-size image; (6) a printer for printing out facsimile data, which corresponds to the reduced-size image displayed on the display, when the detected command is a print command, even during the receipt of facsimile data; and (7) a deletion unit for deleting facsimile data, which corresponds to the reduced-size image displayed on the display, when the detected command is a delete command, even during the receipt facsimile data.

Ito relates to an image communication device for communicating image data using a plurality of channels. Ito discusses dividing an image into a plurality of blocks, encoding image data in a unit of block and transmitting the encoded image data through two channels assigned on block unit basis. On the reception side, received image data is decoded on a block unit basis and output immediately. According to Ito, this device makes a buffer to absorb the difference of the delay time between information channels is unnecessary. However, Applicant has found nothing in Ito that would teach or suggest “a detector for detecting what command has been entered while sequentially displaying the reduced-size image,” “a printer for printing out facsimile data, which corresponds to the reduced-size image displayed on said display, when the detected command is a print command, even during the receipt of facsimile data” or “a deletion unit for deleting facsimile data, which corresponds to the reduced-size image displayed on said display, when the detected command is a delete command, even during the receipt facsimile data,” as recited in Claim 10.

Takahashi fails to remedy the deficiencies of Ito. Takahashi relates to an information processing apparatus that automatically extracts a search key word, and performs a search operation using the key word. Takahashi discusses receiving facsimile data, generating a thumbnail image and printing a designated file if a print command has been entered. However, Applicant has found nothing in Takahashi that would teach or suggest ““a detector for detecting what command has been entered while sequentially displaying the reduced-size image,” “a printer for printing out facsimile data, which corresponds to the reduced-size image displayed on said display, when the detected command is a print command, even during the receipt of facsimile data” or “a deletion unit for deleting facsimile data, which corresponds to the reduced-size image displayed on said display, when the detected command is a delete command, even during the receipt facsimile data,” as recited in Claim 10.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 10 is patentable over Ito and Takahashi, whether considered separately or in any permissible combination (if any).

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant’s opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against Claim 10.

Independent Claims 12 and 13 recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 10 and therefore are also believed to be patentable over the cited prior art for the reasons discussed above.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention,

however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Jennifer A. Reda/
Jennifer A. Reda
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No.: 57,840

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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